



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 360**

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6253

*House of Representatives, April 4, 2013*

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. GUERRERA of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REMOVE ICE OR SNOW FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-252a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

3 (a) The operator of any noncommercial motor vehicle, as defined in  
4 section 14-1, shall remove any accumulated ice or snow from such  
5 motor vehicle, including the hood, trunk and roof of such motor  
6 vehicle, so that any ice or snow accumulated on such vehicle does not  
7 pose a threat to persons or property while the vehicle is being operated  
8 on any street or highway of this state. Any such operator who fails to  
9 remove accumulated ice or snow that poses such a threat shall be fined  
10 seventy-five dollars and shall be deemed to have committed an  
11 infraction.

12 (b) If the operator of a noncommercial motor vehicle violates the  
13 provisions of subsection (a) of this section and snow or ice is dislodged

14 from such vehicle and causes personal injury or property damage,  
15 such operator shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars but not  
16 more than one thousand dollars for each offense.

17 (c) On and after December 31, 2013, the operator of any commercial  
18 motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, shall remove any  
19 accumulated ice or snow from such motor vehicle, including the hood,  
20 trunk and roof of such motor vehicle, so that any ice or snow  
21 accumulated on such vehicle does not pose a threat to persons or  
22 property while the vehicle is being operated on any street or highway  
23 of this state. Any such operator who fails to remove accumulated ice or  
24 snow that poses such a threat shall be fined seventy-five dollars and  
25 shall be deemed to have committed an infraction.

26 (d) On and after December 31, 2013, if the operator of a commercial  
27 motor vehicle violates the provisions of subsection (c) of this section  
28 and snow or ice is dislodged from such vehicle and causes personal  
29 injury or property damage, such operator shall be fined not less than  
30 five hundred dollars but not more than twelve hundred fifty dollars  
31 for each offense.

32 (e) This section shall not apply to (1) any operator of a motor vehicle  
33 during a period of snow, sleet or freezing rain if such period began  
34 and continued during the period of the motor vehicle's operation, or  
35 (2) any operator of a motor vehicle during the time such vehicle is  
36 parked.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2013	14-252a

**TRA**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

There is no fiscal impact to change the penalty from a violation to an infraction because the fine remains \$75 for failing to remove snow or ice from a motor vehicle.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 6253*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REMOVE ICE OR SNOW FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE.*****SUMMARY:**

The law sets a \$75 fine for a motorist who fails to remove accumulated snow or ice from a motor vehicle so that it does not pose a danger to people or property when the vehicle is being driven. The bill makes this violation an infraction. An infraction is not a crime, and violators can pay the fine by mail. The fine remains \$75.

The law and the bill apply to both commercial (e.g., large trucks) and noncommercial motor vehicles. The law requiring noncommercial motor vehicles to remove snow and ice is already in effect; the law applying to commercial motor vehicles takes effect December 31, 2013.

The bill does not change the payment procedure, and thus still requires a court appearance, for violations that cause personal injury or damage. By law, these violations are punishable by (1) a \$200 to \$1,000 fine if committed by non-commercial motor vehicle operators and (2) starting December 31, 2013, a \$500 to \$1,250 fine if committed by commercial motor vehicle operators.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

**BACKGROUND*****Related Bill***

HB 6387, favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee, allows fines to be paid by mail for failure to remove snow or ice from a motor vehicle when no personal or property damage results.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

## Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 34 Nay 0 (03/15/2013)